

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, 100 years ago, Congress passed the 1914 Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Appropriations Act, which established a separate department within the Library of Congress to serve the legislative and resource needs of the United States Congress.

The legislation authorized the Library of Congress to “employ competent persons to prepare such indexes, digests, and compilations of laws as may be required for Congress and other official use.”

In 1946, the Department was renamed the Legislative Reference Service, which is today known as the Congressional Research Service, or CRS. Over the years, CRS has served the Congress by providing comprehensive and reliable legislative research and analyses that are timely, objective, and authoritative.

This year is the 100th anniversary of the Congressional Research Service, and today I want to thank these research professionals for the work they do and the contributions they make to the United States Congress and our Federal legislative process.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

(Mr. WAXMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, last week, members of the Safe Climate Caucus challenged the Republicans who are on the Energy and Commerce Committee to come to the floor and debate with us and talk about the problems of climate change. We wrote them a letter, and we haven't even gotten a reply. There seems to be a conspiracy of silence in the House of Representatives about the dangers of climate change, and it's time for real debate on the House floor.

Every day, members of the Safe Climate Caucus have come to this floor to give speeches on topics relating to climate change, including the importance of preparing communities to mitigate the impacts of extreme weather events, potential for clean energy technologies, and the threats of rising temperatures across the country.

In contrast, we're not aware of any Republican Member who has spoken on the House floor about the dangers of climate change, and the committee of jurisdiction is not even willing to hold a hearing to hear what the scientists and experts have to say about the issue.

I have a message to House Republicans: You can't make climate change go away by ignoring the problem.

THE BOSTON TRAGEDY

(Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, today our hearts remain

heavy. Our hearts are heavy for those who lost their lives in Monday's unspeakable act of violence, for those who remain in critical condition, for the parents who lost their 8-year-old son, and for the families whose loved ones never came home from the Boston Marathon.

While our sorrow is great, so, too, is our resolve. We're committed to working with law enforcement officers to ensure that those responsible are held accountable, and we are committed to stopping acts of terror on U.S. soil and abroad.

We will remain vigilant, demand answers, and seek justice, for there is nothing we take more seriously than the protection of American life. And in our sorrow, we will find gratitude for the firefighters, paramedics, police officers, and first responders who put their lives at risk to help save others.

In the words of Ronald Reagan:

I know in my heart that man is good, that what is right will always eventually triumph. And there's purpose and worth to each and every life.

So today let us come together as Americans—as moms and dads, brothers and sisters, husbands and wives—and continue to pray for those whose lives were forever changed.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, earlier today, the Energy and Commerce Committee passed, for the third time in 2 years, a bill to force approval of the Keystone XL pipeline.

I voted against the bill for many reasons, but chief among them is the fact that it doubles down on a dead-end oil-based energy policy that is hurting our economy, hurting our environment and our health.

Burning fossil fuels is a primary cause of climate change, and we simply can't afford to continue down this destructive path. It makes far more sense to focus on developing the clean, renewable energy technologies that we all know we're going to need down the road. Developing these technologies will create quality long-term jobs that can't be shipped overseas. It's good for business; it's good for our planet; and it's good for our national security.

There's no reason we can't put aside our differences and take action to promote a clean energy future. It's what our constituents sent us here to do.

Our window of opportunity is rapidly closing. The time to act is now.

□ 1720

CYBERSECURITY AND THE CONSTITUTION

(Mr. MCCLINTOCK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, the House has been considering H.R. 624, the so-called CISPA bill.

Although its sponsors assure us that a person's Internet data would be stripped of personal identification, this bill then allows this data to be used to prosecute certain Federal crimes. Well, how could they do it? It turns out the Federal Government, having stumbled upon this evidence, can then seek a warrant to obtain that personally identifying information.

That makes it the functional equivalent of the “writ of assistance” used by the English Crown in colonial times. It is antithetical to the Fourth Amendment, which requires that, before the government can invade your privacy, it must first present a court with reasonable cause to believe you have committed a crime. This bill effectively allows the government to search through your personal records indiscriminantly and then use that information to form the basis of a prosecution.

Cybersecurity is an important national security issue, but it does not trump the Bill of Rights or the American freedoms that our Constitution protects.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

(Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Today, I rise to cite the fact that the American people and Democrats and scientists agree that climate change is a danger to us all, but where are the Republicans? A week ago, I joined my colleagues in the Safe Climate Caucus to challenge the Republican members of the Energy and Commerce Committee to debate the Nation's response to climate change on the House floor. We received no response.

It is time for a real debate on the House floor about the dangers of climate change. We are already seeing the powerful forces and effects of nature. We are witnessing the predictions of our premier scientists come true, and they are alarming. We've seen catastrophic storms, record heat waves, droughts, and wildfires. Top scientists in the U.S. and around the world tell us that impacts like these will get even worse as climate change continues. There is no debate about the science of climate change.

Madam Speaker, it's time for a debate on how to solve climate change.

THE “GOLD STAR” FOR DAWSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR ROTC

(Mr. COLLINS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to report that the Dawson County High School Junior ROTC recently earned “gold star” status. This honor places the Dawson County High School Junior ROTC in